

MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC# 053-2016

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager
DATE: February 3, 2016
SUBJECT: **41st Street and Prairie Avenue Straight-Only Pilot Project**

This Letter to the City Commission is prepared to provide information on an experimental traffic mitigation effort taking place on 41st Street and Prairie Avenue during rush hour.

In an effort to ease congestion along the 41 Street corridor during the afternoon rush hour (4:00 pm and 7:00 pm), the Police Department and Transportation Department are experimenting at a single intersection by preventing vehicles from making westbound or eastbound turns from Prairie Avenue onto 41 Street. During the pilot program, the only option for vehicles travelling on Prairie Ave is to go straight.

The purpose of this experiment is to determine whether preventing turns will ease northern and southern flow of traffic within the heart of our City. It is also hoped that this effort will lessen any gridlock or block-the-box issues at this intersection. From Monday, January 25, 2016 through February 19, 2016, there will be two police officers deployed to this intersection from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, Monday to Friday, to ensure that vehicles do not make a right or left turn. A diagram depicting the intersection is attached.

During the pilot phase, we will be evaluating traffic flow. We will also evaluate how well this effort is received by Miami Beach residents and government officials. After the completion of this pilot phase, our Departments will have more insight and data to help determine whether to proceed with more no-turn intersections along 41 Street at other intersections, such as Chase Ave, Royal Palm Ave and/or Sheridan Ave.



DJO:LH:MC

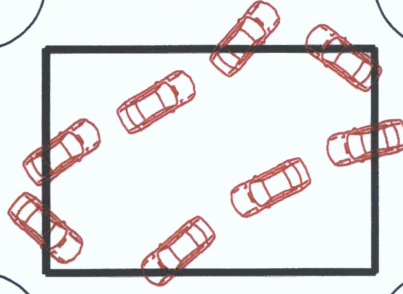
Attachment

Prairie Avenue



41st Street

Parking Lane



Traffic congestion on 41st Street

Turning RED cars
indicate blocking
the box

Traffic congestion on 41st Street

Straight only traffic
alleviates turning cars
blocking the intersection